

BLONDIE



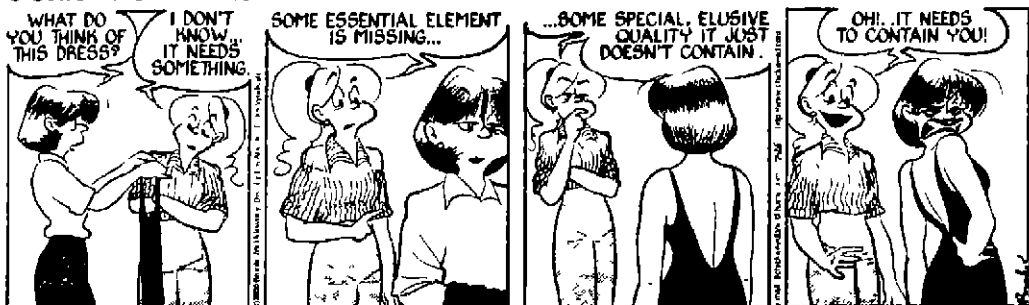
SALLY FORTH



THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN



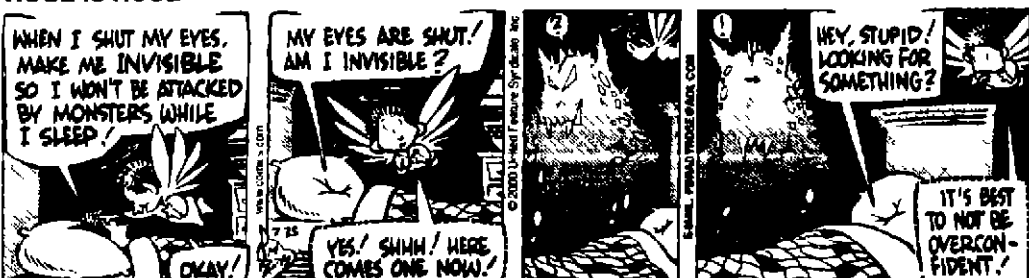
9 CHICKWEED LANE



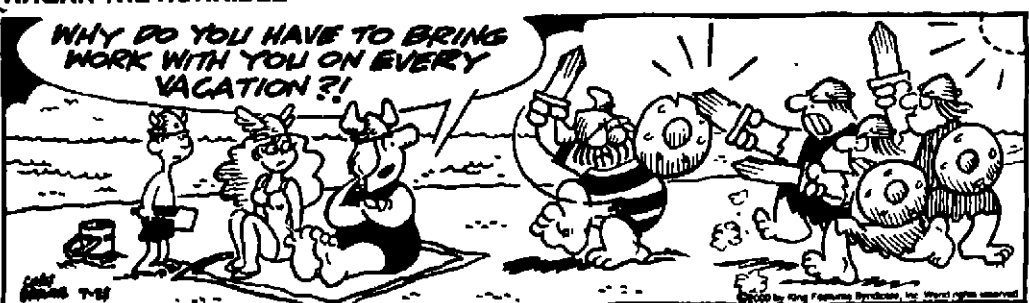
JUMP START



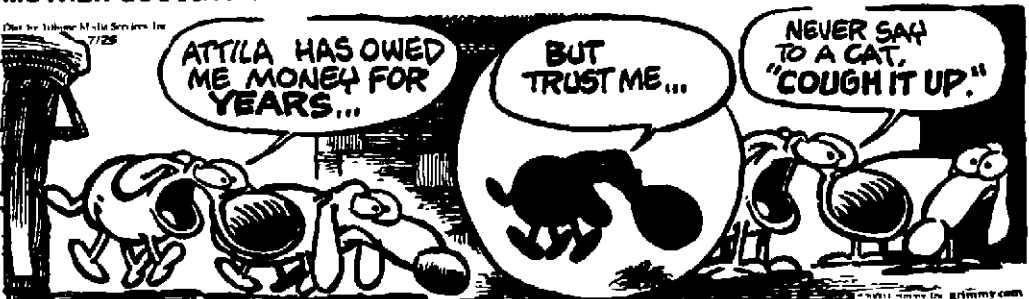
ROSE IS ROSE



HAGAR THE HORRIBLE



MOTHER GOOSE AND GRIMM



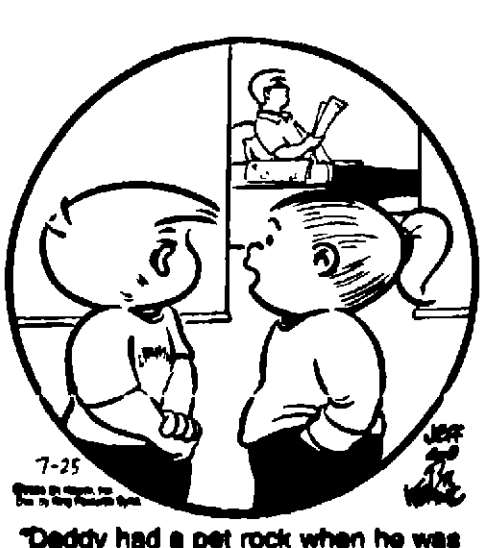
DILBERT



DENNIS THE MENACE



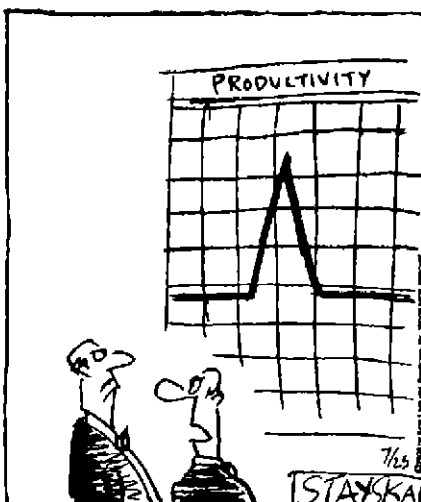
FAMILY CIRCUS



RHYMES WITH ORANGE



RALPH



Today's Birthdays

Actress Estelle Getty is 77. Actress Barbara Harris is 85. Musician Verdine White (Earth, Wind & Fire) is 49. Model-Actress Iman is 45. Cartoonist Ray Billingsley ("Curtis") is 43. Rock musician Thurston Moore (Sonic Youth) is 42. Actress Illeana Douglas is 35. Country singer Marty Brown is 35. Actor Matt LeBlanc is 33. Actor Brad Renfro is 18.

I NEED HELP



SCRABBLE

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Y	D	P	L	M	A	A	Double Word Score
O	T	C	L	U	G	I	3rd Letter Triple
A	E	E	C	R	H	R	4th Letter Double
S	P	U	O	M	S	L	

PAR SCORE 75-85
by JUDD

FOUR RACK TOTAL
TIME LIMIT 20 MIN

DIRECTIONS: Make a 2 to 7 letter word from the letters in each row. Add points of each word using scoring directions at right. 7 letter words get 50 point bonus. "Banks" used any letter have no point value. All Judd's words are in The Official Scrabble Players Dictionary (Merriam Webster) and OSW Official Scrabble Words (Chambers). JUDD'S SOLUTION TOMORROW 7-29-00

For solution, see Classified.

WORD SLEUTH

ASSOCIATED WITH THE STARS

U X L V T R P N L J H E C A Y
W P L A N E T A R I U M N D T
E L K N I W T H V T R P O N H
L K I G E T C B G Z X O I L G
W E C N A T S I D I W U T A I
E P O C S E L E T Y R S A R N
R P O Y A W Y K L I M B G E R
W H E A V E N L Y E M L I N A
I J I G E D O B A Y C X V E E
S E T E L H T A U S F L A G L
H W N O I T A L L E T S N O C

Monday's unlisted clue: CURTAIN

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions - forward, backward, up, down and diagonally. Tuesday's unlisted clue hint: — UPON A STAR

Athletes	Constellation	Hollywood	Telescope
Bright	Distance	Milky Way	Twinkle
Celestial	General	Navigation	U.S. Flag
Clear night	Heavenly	Planetarium	

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7/25

For solution, see Classified.

HOROSCOPE

For Wednesday, July 26, 2000

ARIES (March 21 to April 19) This is definitely a time when just talking will lead to absolutely no action.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) Read the fine print carefully and exercise a little diplomacy.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) Stand up and be counted, you'll be amazed at the results.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) An influential friend will help turn around a difficult situation.

LEO (July 23 to Aug. 22) If all else fails, imagination can always come to your rescue.

VIRGO (Aug. 23 to Sept. 22) Your intelligence will both startle and bewilder someone you meet for the first time.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) If you're still waiting for that special someone to speak first, why not just make your feelings known?

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Get a clear view of all the facts before you let your emotions overtake you.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Humor is the best method of communication at this time.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 19) Escape without guilt if someone is determined to talk your ear off endlessly.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 to Feb. 18) Enjoy the excitement of building a new future out of a shared past.

PISCES (Feb. 19 to March 20) Your focus will be on your family and creativity.

ACES

By Bobby Wolff

East won his singleton heart king and switched to the diamond jack. South won the queen and led another heart, intending to build an eventual heart winner. West won his queen and led a diamond, knocking out dummy's ace. South countered by cashing a club and persisting with another heart, promoting his heart nine to a winner. However, West shifted to spades. When East produced the king, South was helpless. He could win six minor-suit tricks, a heart and a spade, but he could not unravel the communications to win another trick in either black suit. To make the game against the actual layout, you win trick two: with your diamond queen and cash three high clubs. Lead a heart to West's queen, and West must knock out the diamond ace. Cash dummy's long club while discarding a diamond. Now, exit dummy with a low spade. East wins and must lead either a spade or a diamond. Win with either the spade queen or the diamond king, and exit in hearts. West wins, and either major-suit exit gives you your eighth and ninth winners.

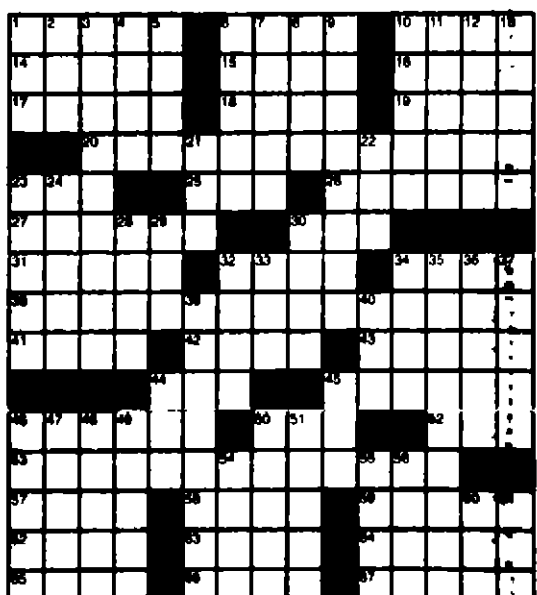
N.Y. TIMES CROSSWORD

No. 0613

- ACROSS**
- 1 Important exam
 - 6 Serene
 - 10 Pint sellers
 - 14 Concert site
 - 18 Zone
 - 19 "Make it snappy"
 - 17 Small salamanders
 - 18 Husky
 - 19 Pro
 - 20 Command to a sloucher
 - 23 Mutt
 - 25 Mao ____-tung
 - 26 Haunt
 - 27 Nervous
 - 30 Contains
 - 31 Greek theater
 - 32 Stoltz of "Mask"
 - 34 Dog in "Beetle Bailey"
 - 36 Park
 - 41 Dry run
 - 42 Wraps up
 - 43 Losing come-out roll in craps
 - 44 Madrid Mrs.
 - 46 ____ Tunes (cartoon series)
 - 48 Summer attire
 - 50 Hack's workplace
 - 52 Stubborn one
 - 53 Be dead and buried
 - 57 With the bow, in music
 - 58 Na ____ and Ca ____
 - 59 "____" mailman
 - 62 Dressed
 - 63 Authentic
 - 64 Influential member of a tribe
 - 66 Fictional Jane
 - 68 Writer Stanley Gardner
 - 67 Squid
- DOWN**
- 1 Strike out
 - 2 Wrath
 - 3 Bygone cinema bonuses
 - 4 Opposed
 - 5 Remain in good shape
 - 6 Pitcher's tent
 - 7 Get up
 - 8 It begins on Ash Wednesday
 - 9 Noted jazz drummer
 - 10 Notre Dame's city
 - 11 Style manual concern
 - 12 Spa
 - 13 Pop's footwear
 - 21 Sport ____ (modern vehicle)
 - 22 Stomach muscles, briefly
 - 23 Take for one's own use
 - 24 Excessive
 - 26 Morn
 - 28 Bearded antelope
 - 29 Top 40 station's play list
 - 30 11,000-foot mountain in Europe
 - 38 Patel, strongly
 - 39 Cuatro y cuatro

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

BOARDS SALES SEPT
LOGIC TAUT YANA
EARTHQUAKE IVIS
CLOUTIER EMBLEMS
DOOR ETNA
VEVA DRIVERS
SABER MORG GAS
SABANONABEAUTY
JLY GAIN MYME
JUNOBY ABAT
JUNO DARE
ALIBRICA BOARBLI
CUBO AMAMUNOOL
ALIBI ALIBI JABOVI
BURY BURY ANILINI



Puzzle by Peter Gordon

- 35 Avert
- 36 Park features
- 37 Respects the rules
- 38 Get worked up?
- 40 U.S. command once
- 44 Good name for a cook
- 46 There are 22 in a kg.
- 48 "The final frontier"
- 49 ____-bury
- 46 "American Beauty" prize
- 48 ____ Island
- 50 Ear port
- 51 Air passenger's mascot
- 54 Perpetrator
- 58 Cinches
- 59 Vogue competitor
- 60 Agent from Washington
- 61 Prepares scrapple sev

Answers to any three clues in this puzzle are available by touch-tone phone: 1-800-420-5555 (95¢ per minute). Annual subscriptions are available for the best of Sunday crosswords from the last 50 years: 1-800-7-ACROSS